

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference WPP82393	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 01/ 04302	International filing date (day/month/year) 26/09/2001	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 26/09/2000
Applicant 6S LIMITED		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 6 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/04302

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 678 816 A (CANON KK) 25 October 1995 (1995-10-25) column 7, line 16 - column 12, line 1 ---	1-6, 18-23
A	EP 1 004 967 A (EASTMAN KODAK CO) 31 May 2000 (2000-05-31) paragraph '0008! paragraph '0015! column 7, line 1 - line 14 column 9, line 17 - line 26 paragraph '0022! paragraph '0024! --- -/--	1-13, 18-28

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

* & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 November 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/12/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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DE CASTRO PALOM., L

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International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>ALEXANDER C., LOUI AND MARK D. WOOD: "A Software System for Automatic Albuming of Consumer Pictures"</p> <p>PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTH ACM INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MULTIMEDIA , 'Online! 1999, pages 159-162, XP002220769 Orlando, FL, USA</p> <p>Retrieved from the Internet: <URL:http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=319921&coll=portal&dl=ACM&CFID=5712302&CF_TOKEN=4850483> 'retrieved on 2002-11-14!</p> <p>the whole document</p> <p>---</p>	1-6, 18-23
A	<p>HEWAGAMAGE, K.P.; HIRAKAWA, M. :</p> <p>"Augmented Album: situation-dependent system for a personal digital video/image collection "</p> <p>MULTIMEDIA AND EXPO, 2000. ICME 2000. 2000 IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON, 'Online! vol. 1, 30 July 2000 (2000-07-30)</p> <p>- 2 August 2000 (2000-08-02), pages 323-326, XP002220770</p> <p>NY, USA</p> <p>Retrieved from the Internet: <URL:http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/iel5/6974/18800/00869606.pdf?isNumber=18800&prod=CNF&arnumber=869606&arSt=323&ared=326+vol.1&arAuthor=Hewagamage%2C+K.P.%3B+Hirakawa%2C+M.> 'retrieved on 2002-11-14!</p> <p>the whole document</p> <p>---</p>	1-6, 18-23
A	<p>WO 00 51342 A (SONY ELECTRONICS INC)</p> <p>31 August 2000 (2000-08-31)</p> <p>page 2, line 14 - line 27</p> <p>page 6, line 11 -page 10, line 32</p> <p>-----</p>	1-6, 18-23

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 14-17,28-59

In view of the large number of independent claims and also the obscure wording of the claims presently on file, which render it difficult, if not impossible, to determine the matter for which protection is sought, the present application fails to comply with the clarity and conciseness requirements of Article 6 PCT (see also Rule 6.1(a) PCT) to such an extent that a meaningful search is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which do appear to be clear (and concise), namely general method and apparatus of the invention (CLAIMS 1-13 and 18-28).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB 01/04302

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 14-17, 28-59
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/04302

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0678816	A	25-10-1995	JP 3149309 B2	26-03-2001
			JP 7296001 A	10-11-1995
			JP 8110911 A	30-04-1996
			DE 69525673 D1	11-04-2002
			DE 69525673 T2	22-08-2002
			EP 0678816 A2	25-10-1995
			ES 2169742 T3	16-07-2002
			US 5805215 A	08-09-1998
EP 1004967	A	31-05-2000	US 2001041020 A1	15-11-2001
			EP 1004967 A1	31-05-2000
			JP 2000215212 A	04-08-2000
WO 0051342	A	31-08-2000	US 6462778 B1	08-10-2002
			AU 3382300 A	14-09-2000
			WO 0051342 A1	31-08-2000